

# East meets West again in an annual ritual

**By Jerry Johnston**

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Back in 1869, some odd and eerie events surrounded the driving of the Golden Spike: rivalries, one-upmanship, a hostage was even taken. John Stewart, a Golden Spike scholar and historian at Utah State University, has provided us with an array of provocative insights about it all. They'll be listed here a bit later.

First, a look at this year's celebration and what's in store for those who attend.

May 10 will mark a full 15 years since the Golden Spike Centennial in 1969. And the site's seen some changes. Half of the cast of that Centennial reenactment has passed away, for instance, and new personnel, such as superintendent Denny Davies, are now at the Promontory post.

Back in 1957, when all you found at Promontory was a small monument surrounded by sagebrush, only 300 souls showed up for the first ceremony. In 1969 a whopping 25,000 put in an appearance. This year organizers are praying for sunshine and thinking they'll see about 3,000 visitors.

Bleachers, food, drinks, booklets, trinkets and plenty of pamphlets will be on hand for those who show.

"This year there'll be a lot of tradition," says Delone Glover, president of the Golden Spike Association. "We have a pre-program at 10 a.m. featuring the Bear River High School band and Indian dances performed by the Boy Scouts. Following, we'll have our program, including the raising of the 20-star flag, the Pledge, National Anthem and reenactment pageant. We'll try to drive the spike into the ground as close to 12:47 (the time in 1869) as we can."

To help boost the spirit along, here are some interesting anecdotes. We run them below as a "Did you know?" grab-bag of sorts, a brief history of intriguing tidbits.

## **GOLDEN SPIKE SCRATCH PAD**

● *The Mormons played a bigger role in the building of the railroad than people realize. When Brigham Young brought his company across the plains he instructed his men to take notes for routes that would be good for the railroad. He had been assured by both companies that the route would run through Salt Lake City. He gave them manpower to help.*

*They betrayed him, however, and took the route around the north end of the lake. For that reason he made sure he was conveniently visiting St. George the day the Golden Spike was driven.*

● *It is difficult to find accurate accounts of what happened at the*

*See A GOLDEN on S-7*



Scenes from the re-enactment of the Driving of the Golden Spike try to capture the flavor of the event as authentically as possible. This marks the 115th anniversary of ceremony and the 15th year of the pageant.

DESIGN/ CRAIG HOLYOAK

PHOTOGRAPHY/ JIM SEAR



Sweaters once were considered fall and winter attire — you started wearing them in September and packed them away on the first day of spring.

Well, times have changed!

Today sweaters have become year 'round apparel, and many fashion-conscious women contend there isn't anything cooler or more comfortable than a knit in the summer when temperatures soar.

We aren't talking about fluffy mohairs and heavy wools, of course, we're talking about summer-weight knits that absorb perspiration and "breathe" even when city streets sizzle. Such knits are made of cotton, acrylic, silk, linen and linen and cotton blends. Most of them take easily to tubbing and scrubbing if you exercise a certain amount of caution and shape the wet garment. Others, especially those with elaborate or unusual trims, do better when taken to a reputable dry cleaner.

Even if a summer-weight sweater is so delicate that it requires professional care, it's probably worth the extra cost for upkeep.

Many knits are one-of-a-kind pieces or at least have that look, notes Betsy Balch of Nordstrom's. And they're a joy to collect and wear.

You'll see lots of animal prints worth collecting in the stores; lots of sweaters that feature ribbon and beaded trims; lots of knits imprinted with bold blocks of color or dramatic patterns. Artistic touches run the gamut.

Styles run the gamut, too. Perhaps most popular are simple little pullover shells that come in wonderful colors and add amazing versatility to a woman's warm-weather wardrobe. Shells slip neatly under suit jackets and add a refreshing touch to skirts and pants. Shells also can be teamed with simple skirts and then

Short-sleeved pullovers also are plentiful. So are three-quarter and long-sleeved silhouettes. And for the woman who likes to project a very fashion-forward image, there are pullovers with dressmaker touches such as tucking, pleating and shoulder padding.

In addition to cool summer pullovers, there also are lots of little lightweight sweater vests around this season — perfect touches with pants and jeans. Cardigans haven't been forgotten, either, because designers know that many summer evenings require wraps, as do air-conditioned offices.

Sweater sets also can be found for summertime — and they're a stylish change of pace from the usual jacket-blouse routine. You'll also see sweaters that reflect the oversized trend in fashion, the Oriental influence and the Flashdance trend with seaming on the outside.

Even better than the many stylish options that knits provide, though, is their practicality. Most busy modern women spend a major portion of the summer months traveling and vacationing. And there isn't anything that takes to a crowded suitcase with more aplomb than sweaters. Sweaters can be rolled, crunched, bunched and mistreated and still come out wrinkle free.

One of the most important things to hunt for if you want a wrinkle-free knit that will hold its shape: quality. On the market right now are summery sweaters in a wide price range. The cheaper ones, most fashion experts warn, may seem like bargains. But they're the knits that have given cotton sweaters and other lightweights a bad name because they're inclined to stretch out of shape.

It always pays in the long run to buy the very best you can afford — whether you're in the market for a good-looking summer sweater or anything else in fashion.

that taupe suit with the burgundy blouse, I thought Ugh! It'll never work. But then you put the matching burgundy silk flower on the lapel and I realized it did work! I loved it. The corsage, with its cream-colored lace bow, pulled the colors together. It was a beautiful color scheme."

It did, and it was. And you can do it too. It takes just a little thought about "Now, what can I do that's different than my usual?" to take yourself beyond the plain and ordinary. Be willing to experiment with what you already have.

That silk flower on my suit lapel didn't just happen to come to mind. It took some thought and effort. I had decided to try and make better use of my accessories, including a drawer of silk flower corsages accumulated as a result of numerous speaking engagements. They're beautiful and it's a shame to let them gather dust.

One of those corsages was very big and I discovered I didn't really like it. I couldn't wear it comfortably. Oh, it was lovely to look at, but too big to wear. Sitting there on my chest, it felt like a man-eating flower ready to devour me at any moment.

Another corsage was super-frilly, too fluffy; a favorite for others maybe, but too fancy for me.

With a little experimentation, I discovered that I could wear the fluffy flowers that were smaller and dark in color. I was comfortable with the lighter and brighter ones if they were also smaller, but made from firmer fabric or held in shape with tiny concealed floral wires. I felt more feminine, but not overly fussy. I was comfortable.

What kind of flower might you be comfortable wearing? A suit and a blouse with an interesting neckline, in a creative color combination, and with a silk flower on the lapel takes on new interest and moves out of the ordinary. You can do it, too!



Kellie models a handknit sweater that features ribbons in the weave; Allison Taylor label.



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